"The Conservator" December 19, 1902.

Peddling — A Hyman J B Churchville 1902

BIOGRAPHY

Peddling

ELI HYMAN IS NO MORE

Died at Toronto on Monday

Worth $100,000 and Begging.

Eccentric.

On the Streets of Toronto and Throughout the Country - Peddled Cloth and Trinkets in this County-A Peculiar Individual and Would Make any Sacrifice for Money.

Everyone in the neighborhood of Churchville and indeed in many parts of Peel was familiar with a Jew peddlar who went about in rags and always talked of his poverty. The following story of his death is therefore of local as well as of general interest.

At six o'clock Saturday night Eli Hyman, an old Jew, was admitted to the General Hospital upon an order from Rabbi Jacobs, of the Holy Blossom synagogue. He was dirty, ragged and complained that he was homeless and so poor that he had to borrow a car ticket to get to the hospital. He was sent to the public ward and found to be suffering acutely from pneumonia. Wednesday afternoon he died.

The body was sent to the hospital morgue, and the ward tenders prepared to burn the ragged clothes in which the old Jew had come to the hospital. The old man had given no instructions as to what was to be done with his things, and this seemed natural, as he had appeared to have nothing of value. He had given an old red handkerchief, tied up at the corners, to a nurse to keep for him, and she had put it in a drawer. He had incidentally asked

JB.

ELI HYMAN IS NO MORE - 2

that care be taken of his vest, but he did not seem over-anxious about it.

WORTH LARGE FORTUNE

When the ward tenders had piled the clothes on the floor the nurse appeared with the handkerchief. Before proceeding to put it on top of the pile she untied it, and found scrip valued at $17,000. She showed it to some of the doctors, who promptly went through the old clothes. In the lining of the vest they found a piece of oilcloth containing securities for $14,000. In another part of the clothes they found a statement showing that the old man's income in the last year was $3,000.

The value of Hyman's estate is estimated at $100,000, the old man having held stock in the Canada Permanent Loan and Western Canada Mortgage Company, British-Canadian Loan Company, Canada Landed and National Investment Company, British America Assurance Company, Toronto Electric Light Company, Western Assurance Company, Dominion Savings and Loan Company, Toronto Mortgage Company, the Building and Loan Association, London and Canadian Loan Company. Other papers show receipts for money deposited. Most of the scrip, when found, was in envelopes, all addressed to Mrs. Sophia Hyman, Churchville, Ont.

Mrs. Hyman was the dead man's wife, from whom he had been separated for 25 years. Rabbi Jacobs, who took charge of the estate as trustee, sent for her. She

ELI HYMAN IS NO MORE - 3

arrived last night and proved her marriage to Hyman in 1870. She denied having a daughter in California and denied being on any but the best of terms with her husband. He had visited her frequently, she said, and she knew he had some money.

WELL-KNOWN BEGGAR

Eli Hyman was 70 years old, and came to Toronto 33 years ago. He was well versed in Jewish law and liturgy, but got his living by begging and by sometimes selling papers. He sold papers on Saturday night and slept in a stable on York street. He was so eager a collector of cash that when his dividends were due he would go to the brokers and get the cheques, asking also for the stamps which would have been used if the cheques had been mailed. For a time he was a pensioner of the Holy Blossom synagogue.

Peddling
Hyman
Churchville

Peddling

Eli Hyman was for a number of years a pack pedlar in Peel. He was well known about Churchville where he lived with his wife. Worth $100,000 and lived on charity - such is the brief story of the life of Eli Hyman, who died in a public ward at the General Hospital.

(This is taken from article filed in Family History File -- for complete story see that file).

Originally
Copied from
Clipping
from the Peel Banner.